HANDS THAT HELP BOTH GOD AND MAN

Exodus 4:2"What is that in thine hand?"

INTRO. Moses hesitated to become the Lord's messenger to Pharaoh.

When Moses siezed the serpent and it became a rod, it was no longer the rod of a shepherd, but the rod of God. When his weak, doubting faith became an act of obedience to Jehovah, the ordinary powers of Moses were transformed into mighty forces. Thus our ordinary opportunities and common tasks, when rightly used and wisely dorected as acts of obedience for the achievements of higher purposes, becomes powerful influences for good and great blessings to humanity.

I. Examples.

1. What is in thy hand, o Joshua? A spear to he beld aloft in obedience the command of the Lord. "Stretch forth thy spear that is in thine hand toward Ai." When we obediently use the weaopns for spiritual warfare, great are our victiries.

2. What is in thine hand, Shamgar? An ox-goad! 600 Phillistines slain. Israel delivered.

3. What is in the hand of Gideon and his brave men? Lamps, pitchhers and trumpets! Strange weapons with which to defeat the midianites.

4. What is in thine hand, David?
A sling!
A harp!

5. What is in the hand of Peter and his companions?
A fish net! Fishers of men.

6. What is in thine hand, Dorcas? A needle. Just a needle.

7. What is in thine hand, ~~Mary~~ glad with the precious perfume? ~~An alabaster box of precious ointment for the head of Jesus.~~

8. "hat is in thine had, thou son of ~~the carpenter~~ Joseph? Just a few ordinary carpenter's tools.
But his yoke which he has shaped to bind the oxen together has become the world's greatest uplifting power- the yoke of fellowship with God.
"Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavily l

The story of Turner, the great English landscape painter

"I have done this at least; I have learned how a lake looks when pebbles are thrown into it."

His was the discerning eye what caught the vision of the commonplace. Life chiefly made up of commonplaces. Yet, how beautiful life is when we retain the freshness of our first impressions, that childlike joy in familiar things, that color of feeling which transfigures the commonplace.

Only a goose-quill in the hands of a tinker in jail:

Only a cobbler pegging and praching, but as he ha mmers the tacks into his shoes, he hammers the big missionary idea into the Church, an idea which has grown into the Great Missionary Enterprise of the Ch of Christ

Before we can be really useful, before we can accomplish any great work, before we can live up to the measure of our power, we must stand before the birning bush, we must listen to the divine voice, we must receive the heavenly commission, we must accept the divine command.

Sir Frederick Treves, passing thru childrens ward in a hospital.

Little boy just coming out of the ~~anesthet~~ anesthe eyes bandaged, too fearful to cry, tossing little hands about as if in search of someone. Mother's hands to clasp his, mother's arms to hold him.

Our hands outstretched to help others, made stron by the hand of God, attached to an arm, the Arm of the Almighty